



1101 Connecticut Ave., NW  
Suite 810  
Washington D.C. 20036

P 202 898 1604  
F 202 408 1965

***Empowering Communities.  
Changing Lives.***

[info@nul.org](mailto:info@nul.org)

December 13, 2012

Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 Twelfth Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: MB Dkt. No. 09-182, 2010 Quadrennial Review

Dear Secretary Dortch:

On December 11, 2012 the individuals listed below met with Elizabeth Andrion, Acting Chief Counsel and Senior Legal Advisor to the Chairman:

Madura Wijewardena, National Urban League (NUL); Lisa Navarrete, National Council of La Raza (NCLR); Jason Lagria, Asian American Justice Center (AAJC); and Carol Kaplan, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)

We met with Ms. Andrion to discuss the attached letter filed on December 6, 2012.

Mr. Wijewardena repeated the positions of our organizations set out in the attached letter. He noted that our organizations do not object to a relaxation of the newspaper/broadcast cross-media ownership rule (NBCO) only if such relaxation would not diminish minority ownership. He also noted the disappointment of our organizations regarding the Commission's failure to undertake the necessary analysis to create a set of rules to advance minority ownership that comply with the rules set out by the Supreme Court.

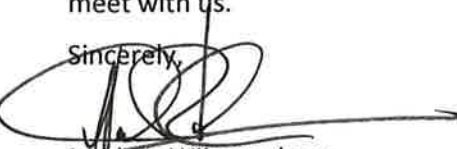
Ms. Navarrete noted that our organizations are taking a nuanced position on the NBCO and that our objective is to ensure that the Commission undertakes the necessary analysis before it proceeds with any relaxation of the NBCO. Ms. Navarrete also noted that expanding minority ownership is a critical goal for our organizations.

Mr. Lagria noted that the demands of our organizations for the Commission to undertake the required analysis to create rules that advance minority ownership have been long standing. He noted that the Commission's failure to have this analysis completed at this time means that all the different elements that are needed to be in place for a proper decision are not in sync.

Ms. Kaplan noted that it is the strong position of the NAACP that the Commission not move ahead with any relaxation of the NBCO until such time as it has analyzed its impact on minority ownership.

We thanked Ms. Andrion for all her and the Chairman's hard work to resolve this issue and for taking the time to meet with us.

Sincerely,

  
Madura Wijewardena  
Director of Research & Policy



December 6, 2012

Chairman Julius Genachowski  
Commissioner Robert McDowell  
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn  
Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel  
Commissioner Ajit Pai  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20054

Re. MB Docket No. 09-182, 2010 Quadrennial Review

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

In our capacities as the leaders of the nation's largest civil rights organizations, the National Urban League (NUL), National Council of La Raza (NCLR), Asian American Justice Center (AAJC) and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), we write to clarify our positions relating to the Commission's current deliberations regarding changes to media ownership rules.

We felt it was necessary to clarify our positions because recent media reports may have misconstrued them. What we clarify here are the positions noted in our filings of March 5, 2012 in partnership with the Diversity and Competition Supporters (First FCC Filings) and of November 20, 2012 in partnership with the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights (Second FCC Filing).

Contrary to what has been stated in the media including an article in Communications Daily on 12.4.2012, we do not support the relaxation of the newspaper/broadcast cross-media ownership rule (NBCO). In our First FCC Filings, we stated that we do not object to a relaxation of the NBCO if such a relaxation would not diminish minority ownership.

This means, any implication that we support the relaxation of the NBCO without referring to this caveat of its impact on minority ownership is incorrect. The Commission should not move ahead with any changes to the NBCO until a credible, objective and data-based analysis of the impact of such changes is completed. We do not believe that that analysis has been completed.

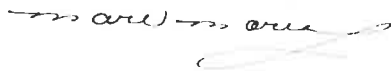
To further clarify our position, we do not believe that the 30 days time period that the Commission has provided to interested parties to comment on the ownership data released by the Commission on November 14, 2012 is sufficient to analyze whether any relaxation of the NBCO will diminish minority ownership. We also believe that the burden of proof is on the

Commission to produce analysis for further public comment that any proposed changes to the NBCO or anything else in the 2010 Quadrennial Review will not diminish minority ownership.

Finally we are extremely disappointed by the Commission's failure to undertake the required analysis to create a set of rules that advance minority ownership and comply with the rules set out by the Supreme Court. The answer is not to state that the Supreme Court has tied the Commission's hands and therefore, the Commission is unable to act on minority ownership, but rather, to design solutions that comply with the Supreme Court's strict rules.<sup>1</sup> At a minimum, this requires the Commission setting aside necessary funding to undertake the analysis needed to create these solutions.

Please contact Madura Wijewardena (NUL) at 202-629-5753, Lisa Navarrete (NCLR) at 202-785-1670, Jason Lagria (AAJC) at 202-296-2300 or Hilary Shelton (NAACP) at 202-463-2940 if you would like to discuss the above issues.


Sincerely,



Marc H. Morial  
President and CEO  
National Urban League



Janet Murguía  
President and CEO  
National Council of La Raza



Mee Moua  
President and Executive Director  
Asian American Justice Center



Hilary O. Shelton  
Director, NAACP Washington Bureau & Senior Vice  
President for Advocacy and Policy  
NAACP

cc: U.S. Senator John D. Rockefeller IV  
Chairman, U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation  
U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison  
Ranking Member, U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation  
U.S. Representative Fred Upton  
Chairman, U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Energy and Commerce  
U.S. Representative Henry A. Waxman  
Ranking Member, U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Energy and Commerce

---

<sup>1</sup> We note that the FCC's own Diversity Committee and our First FCC Filings have recommended a range of race neutral solutions to advance minority ownership that we believe meet the Supreme Court strict standards. At a minimum the Commission should analyze these proposals and provide its analysis for public comment.